

A N
E S S A Y
O N T H E
N A T U R E and C U R E
O F T H E
K I N G ' s E V I L .

Deduced from OBSERVATIONS and PRACTICE,

And designed for the PUBLICK GOOD.

By a private Gentleman of Halsted in Essex.

John Morley
L O N D O N :

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AN
E. S. A. Y.
OF THE
NATURE and CURE
OF THE
KING'S EVIL.

By
J. H. ...
... for the ...
...

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T H E

P R E F A C E.

 *LADY* of my Family having many Years made it her Pleasure, to endeavour the Relief of all such poor Persons as were afflicted with scrophulous Disorders, or the King's Evil, and were recommended to her by Surgeons, or other Practitioners; and having been very successful in curing many such Cases, as they had given up and recommended to her, made me very inquisite with her after her Method of Practice. She very readily informed me of the Nature and Way of applying her Remedies, but would never (during her Life) impart to me the Names of the Things she made use of, or the Method of Preparation, but always told me

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I should find a full Account amongst her Papers after her Death, which I did (being her sole Executor.) With other Things, I found the following Letter to her, from an eminent Surgeon.

M A D A M,

I ONCE more solicit your heavenly Benediction, and the salutary Effects of your renowned Sècret, which the World is from God and yourself, greatly obliged for, in Behalf of this poor unhappy Lad (*B. P.* by Name) who is attended with the King's Evil in his Foot, and has been so for eleven Months ; who I entirely submit to your Care (Providence being your peculiar Guide) in the mean while, I remain in Conformity to Facts,

Your sincere Convert,
And a Public Well-wisher, &c.

T H I S

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THIS Letter, among many others, from Surgeons and Apothecaries, together with the great Cures which she daily did, made me very seriously reflect, how useful a Person she had been to all the human Species, which had applied to her in Time, being chiefly of the lowest Class of Mankind, whose Health and Limbs were their only Livelihood: These were often relieved with her Purse, and always with her Medicines, and Advice Gratis; as also all others, who applied to her for Relief in this deplorable Malady. These Considerations, and the great Number of unhappy Poor, (unable to pay a Surgeon or Apothecary) daily presenting themselves to me; and I knowing the Safety of the Method, and Medicines used in this Disorder, was imboldened to endeavour the Relief of my Fellow-Creatures, by following the Lady's
Rules

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Rules of doing good, for Charity Sake ; which I have followed some Years, with such Success (for which I thank God) as surprizes even my own self. Such Objects of Compassion having been relieved, as pass all Belief of any, but such as have been Eye-witnesses of the Facts, from first to last. Since I have been in Possession of the deceased Lady's Notes and Memorandums, I have read over many Authors who have treated of this Disorder. Dr. Gibbs on this Subject, writes, "That if we take a View of what the most eminent Authors have said of this Disease, we shall find their Notions of it to be of little Use, and very few Accounts of their Success in curing Disorders of this Nature." And truly I am much of the same Opinion. But this great Good have I learnt by reading their Works, and from thence observing the Operations of
my

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*my own Prescriptions, that I have much improved both the Method and Medicines I at first used. I prescribe no painful Applications, cutting or cauterizing, blistering, or nauseous Loads of Physick, but such Things only, as Children of half a Year old, to the Aged of Seventy, may have without the least Hurt or Pain, and with great Safety be administered to them. And I can justly challenge any Person that has been under my Care, and followed my very easy Directions only, to allege the contrary. So that I can, with great Truth assert, That I have done some Good, and no Harm. The Cure of this Distemper by the Lady's Method, is no new Thing, but has been in some Measure used one hundred and fifty Years ago, as I have met with in an old Author; and having seen such wonderful Effects from it, admire what
can*

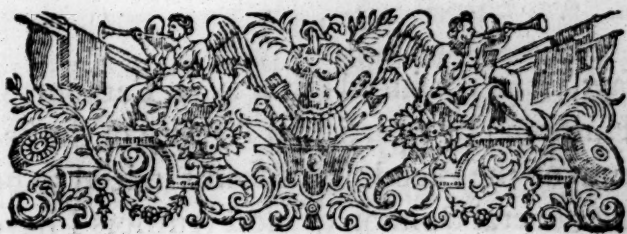
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can be the Reason of its being forgot, shall I say, or not used by the Gentlemen of the Faculty : But it is not according to their Method of Practice. That I am no Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, the Reader will easily see, by my not using hard Words, or technical Terms of Art, to puzzle and confound him ; and my Patients all know I am none of the Faculty, by refusing Fees. All that come to me, are welcome to my Advice and Assistance Gratis. What Necessaries are wanted, they may buy of whom, and where they please. The inward Pleasure I enjoy on seeing any poor Sufferers relieved by my Means, makes me very ample Satisfaction for all the Pains I can take for their Recovery.

August 28,
1760.

JOHN MORLEY.

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A N

ESSAY, &c.

***** THE Scrophula, or what is vulgarly called the King's Evil, I shall now consider. The Word Scrophula (says a learned Writer) signifies a præternatural Tumour or Humour, produced by a particular Acidity of the Serum of the Blood, either in Gland, Muscle, or Membrane, which it both coagulates and indurates, or in the Marrow, which it always dissolves, and also putrifies the Bone. Let us consider a little this Definition: It says, it is a præternatural Tumour, or Humour; who doubts the Truth of the King's Evil, Tumours and Ulcers being contrary to the Intention and Design of Nature, and consequently are præternatural? Next it

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says,

says, it is produced (that is, a Tumour or Humour) by a particular Acidity of the Serum of the Blood. This seems indeed to be the general Opinion of most Authors I have met with on this Subject, who usually follow each other, like Pack-Horses in the same Track : But that other Causes may have the same Effects, I shall by and by endeavour to demonstrate. The Nature of Acidity, according to this Definition, both coagulates and indurates. Coagulation is performed on Milk by Acids, that is, turning the Milk into a Curd, it supposes the Acidity, or Sourness of the Serum of the Blood does the same, that is, curdles in the fine Vessels it enters into. But because Vinegar, Lemon Juice, &c. are acid on the Tongue, must they be so in the Blood ? What mad Work must Vinegar, or other Acids produce, mixt with it, let every one judge ? Pray think what Quantities of Vinegar *Newmarket* Jockeys drink for a Month or two together, to reduce themselves to a proper Weight for Riding Races, and then tell me of any Instance of the Scrophula being produced by that Regimen. Besides,
if

if this was the Case, why should not the Serum be as soon coagulated or curdled in the large Vessels as in the finer? which we see it is not, though the Serum of the Blood contains a proportional Quantity of this particular Acidity in the large Vessels, as well as in the small: And I am apt to think, that the larger the Quantity of Liquor, the sooner it will turn sour, and more sharp the Acidity; which I take to be the Reason, why the Vinegar Makers use such large Casks, even to the holding a hundred Barrels of Liquor in one Body.

I HAVE observed my Patients that have had Sores or Ulcers in their Mouths or Throats, have never complained of, or perceived any Sourness or Acidity of Taste, from the purulent Matter they have spit out, though I have been very inquisitive in that Particular, but they have always declared they had a very salt Taste from the Matter discharged by Spittle.

THAT there is in the Spirit of human Blood a great Hostility (according to Mr. Boyle) or an Antipathy in reference to Acids, has been plainly intimated, and likewise to many Sorts of Acid Spirits,

as of Spirit of Salt, Spirit of Nitre, Spirit and Oil of Vitriol, &c. and not only against factitious Acids, but natural ones too, which he proves by many Experiments, as the Curious may see in his Natural History of human Blood, where he also says, as far as he has been able to observe, the Spirit of human Blood is manifestly preferable to that Classis, that many call Volatile Alcalies, because it makes such great Conflicts with divers Acid Spirits, as Spirit of Salt, Aqua Fortis, &c. and it will immediately turn Syrup of Violets from blue to green, &c. performing such other Things, that may be expected from Volatile Alcalies as such. And he seems strongly to intimate, that there are very few (if any Acid Particles at all) in the Blood, or even in the digestive Ferment of the Stomach. But that great Quantities of Volatile alcalious Salts are contained in the Spirit of human Blood, he proves by many undeniable Experiments, which if true, must naturally destroy all Acidity in the Blood itself; so that consequently, it cannot be a particular, or any Acidity at all in the Blood, that produces the Scrophula.

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THOUGH Spirit of Salt and Oil of Vitriol (which are strong Acids) will produce a Curd-like Substance dropped into the Serum of the Blood, so will Oil of Tartar per Deliquium (which is a strong alcalizate Salt) and also highly rectified Spirit of Wine, and many other alcalious Substances, do the like.

FROM what has been said, it appears, that there can be no Acidity at all in the Blood : But much Alkaline Salt there is very capable of producing all the Symptoms and scrophulous Complaints attending this Disorder.

THE Induration spoken of in the same Definition, I take to be only the Curd-like Matter, hardened by Length of Time, and thrust or squeezed closer together by the Addition of more of the same Matter. That the Marrow in the Bones is dissolved, I have had no Opportunity to observe, by not seeing any Amputation performed in this Disorder. That the Bones often scale, and throw off Honeycomb-like Exfoliations, or Pieces, and are also much corroded, I have frequently met with. But why will not a sharp
corrosive

corosive Salt cause this Corrosion on human Bones, as well as common Sea Salt on the softer Bones and Gristle-like Substances of raw Beef, when long salted in the Pickling-Tub? I make no doubt but it will.

THE Reason why this Disease is called the King's Evil, as I apprehend, is because it has been often cured by the Royal Touch of our Kings in this Island, from *Edward* the Confessor's Time (and how long before I have seen no Account) down to the late Queen *Anne's* Reign. This has been the Subject of much debate amongst the Learned, because great Cures have been sometimes effected that Way, when other Means have miscarried; and other Means have often succeeded, when the Royal Touch has failed. What then shall we say? In my humble Opinion, there is something in the Nature of Gold itself very beneficial in this Disorder, I don't mean laid into the Hand of the Physician by Way of Fee, or pocketed by a Surgeon or Apothecary, but worn about the Patient's Neck, by a white Satin Ribband, hanging down to the Pit of the

the Stomach. How often are Gold Ear-rings and Gold Beads for Necklaces worn for what People call Kernels, in and about the Neck and Throat, and for sore Eyes, which are all common Appearances in this Distemper, and not without some Benefit, as I believe many young Women can testify ?

I VERILY believe that Gold being continually worn at the Pit of the Stomach, next the Skin, has often had great and good Effects, but then People will not attend with Patience enough the Success of such a gentle operating Remedy ; for no doubt, but the fine Effluvia of the Gold being constantly heated by the Stomach, and continually rubbed against it, will insinuate many of its fine Particles through the Pores of the Skin into the Blood and Spirits, and mixing in Time with the Juices of the Body, have very salutary Effects. But then I would recommend a Piece of fine Gold, without alloy, as large as a 36 s. Piece, to be used for that Purpose. But this is too chargeable an Application for my poor Patients Use, though I sincerely think in many Cases

Cases it would be very beneficial, especially to young Subjects, whose Stomachs are warm, and the Disease in its Infancy. Scrophulous Cases, says Dr. *Leigh*, may be ranked amongst the *opprobria Medicorum*, or Scandal of Physicians ; and after his Description of the Distemper in its various Appearances and Effects, concludes ; I could wish our learned Chirurgeons in this Case, would make their utmost Applications, for the Discovery of some Specifick, to correct this Humour. You see, this learned Gentleman ingeniously owns, the Nature and Cure of this Disease was very little known by any of the Faculty in his Time.

SIR *Richard Blackmore* says it exceeds the Penetration and Capacity of human Understanding, to unravel and display those anomalous Clues and Convolutions proper to strumous Swellings, and to set their Nature and Constitution in a clear and distinct View ; and that the acutest Men cannot penetrate and clearly unfold the essential Difference of this Disease. This, I think, sufficiently strengthens Dr. *Leigh's* Observations of the small Progress
that

that has been made in the Nature and Cure of the King's Evil. Having but just mentioned the Opinions of these two learned Physicians, for more particular Accounts I refer the Reader to their Works, and shall proceed with my own Thoughts and Observations.

SETTING aside then the Doctrine of Acid and Alcaly, let us consider the Nature of Salts, and whether they are capable of producing the Complaints and Appearances appendent to scrophulous Disorders. That human Blood abounds with great Quantities of Volatile Salts (is sufficiently demonstrable by observing only the Sweat and Urine) which are composed of Corpuscles, or Particles of very differing Shapes and Sizes, as Mr. *Boyle* clearly proves, who after many Experiments, has found, that these saline Concretions exhibit very different Appearances ; some are strait, some crooked, with various Interferings, representing Branches of Trees, Hartshorn, Feathers, &c. Yet, says he, these seem not to be constant Representations depending upon the particular Nature of human Blood, but casual Figurations that depend upon several accidental Causes and Circumstances. Now this Scrophula is very often an hereditary Disease, and conveyed by Parents : How fine then must the Seeds (if I may so call

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them) of this Distemper be ? yet so it is. As every Acorn contains an Oak rapt up within its Surface, till Time and Vegetation discover its Trunk and spreading Branches ; so is it with this Disorder. If the Seeds are born with us, they lie dormant in our Blood till a proper Time and a convenient Disposition of that Liquor, and the nervous Juices of the Body, cause them to grow and expand into grievous Complaints, and terrible Symptoms.

THE Blood, which seems to be the principal Seat of this Disorder, is divided into two Parts; the one called the Fibrous, consisting of great Numbers of fine smooth red Globules, continually floating in the other, which is a clear lymphid Liquor, called the Serum, or serous Part, which conveys these fine Globules to all Parts of the human Fabrick, in some Degree or other. Now if any of these red Globules are broken change their Figure, or are obstructed in their Passage by the Serum becoming glutinous, or being in too small or too large a Quantity, or disordered by any præternatural Commotion or Ferment, the Circulation through the finest Vessels will be the first impeded and hindered, as in the Glands, &c. Now think, if it is not agreeable to Reason, that as the Globules and Serum of the Blood may both contain a larger Portion
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of these Volatile Salts when the Blood is disordered by any præternatural Cause ; and may not these Salts shoot into very different Figures and Sizes from what they were in their natural State, according to the Nature of the Humours or Distempers that are latent in the Blood ? And as these Salts are frequently of very perplexing and entangling Figures, may we not reasonably suppose, that those irregular figur'd Bodies (carried along in the Road of Circulation) by crossing and entangling each other, may cause Stoppages and Obstructions in the fine Tubes and Strainers of the Body, as the Glands particularly are ? And by a continual Accession of these perplexing Bodies, distend the obstructed Vessels (by Length of Time) into Tumours, which are often indurated or hardened, till sometimes by their corrosive Quality they fret their Way through the Skin, and break into Ulcers. What can this proceed from, but the red globular Particles, or fibrous Part of Blood, being stopped by the figur'd Salts, and the serous Part strain'd as through a Net or Sieve from the fibrous ? The Serum for want of these smooth red globular Particles being mixed with it, becomes clear, tenacious, and fizy, the minute Parts of the Serum not being sufficiently separated and divided by those smooth

Globules as before, and rubbing against each other, are thereby rendered acrimonious and fretting, and become productive of grievous Complaints, hard to be removed. Tumours and Ulcers generated by these or the like Means, are brought to a good Digestion with great Difficulty, and very probably not till the remaining red globular Particles of the Blood can be again mixed in some Degree with the clear Serum, and form one circulating Fluid of Blood and Spirits as before, which I suppose to be effected by melting, absorbing, altering or removing those saline acrimonious Particles that formed the Obstructions.

Now let us consider likewise the fibrous Part of the Blood, or red Globules, which being unable to pervade or pass this Rete or Strainer produced by these irregular figur'd Salts, and to accompany the Serum in its Progress, are there stopped, and being squeezed and crowded close together for want of this Liquor to float them forward through the fine Vessels, obstruct the Spirits, putrify and turn into a Curd-like Substance, till it is digested by Art or Nature into a soft Pus or Matter, and so expelled its Nest. What is more common than to see large scrophulous Ulcers (especially in the more fleshy Parts) look of a deep red Colour
far

far round their Lips or Edges, which I apprehend to proceed from these red Globules being separated from the Serum, and stagnating in those Parts, until a proper Digestion is procured, and then the Redness gradually disappears, and at the same Time you may often observe a clear transparent Liquor stand in dewy Drops on that red Surface of the Skin through which it has exudated? Which I think a sufficient Demonstration that the serous Part of the Blood is in this Disorder strained or separated from the fibrous, and visible even to the naked Eye. And I have always found by Experience, that as the Quantity of this clear limpid Liquor has decreased, the Ulcer has discharged a more laudable Pus, the Redness insensibly worn off, and then the Ulcer has healed up with very little Application more than dry Lint.

SHOULD I attempt to mention all Parts subject to this Disorder, I must name every individual of the human Fabrick, for I know of none exempt from this terrible Malady, no not even the Bones themselves; for in my Course of Practice I have had this verified by repeated Observations: I have had a Patient afflicted with Tumours and Ulcers from the Crown of the Head to the Sole of the Foot, and in above twenty different Places be-

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fides at once, the major Part of which have been cured by the Application of dry Lint only, and the Remainder by very simple Applications, and but very little Physick. But such bad Cases require much Time to make a perfect Cure. For any-body must think, that a Disease brought into the World with one, and so interwoven with the Constitution, and grown up with it, must have much Time and Patience ere it can be totally subdued and eradicated from the Blood and Spirits. Though I have never seen any Dissections of the human Body, yet I may guess from what I observe without, that the Stomach, Bowels, and Intestines, &c. are no less disordered within, which must infallibly be the Source of many fatal Consequences, unless removed by Art or Nature, as sometimes may be the Case. Every the least Tube or Strainer in the whole human Frame may possibly be tormented by the Seeds of this Disorder, as they begin to expand, and long before they arrive to a Bulk perceivable by the Eye or Touch. Unusual Prickings and Dashings, and Sickness at the Stomach, and Uneasiness in many Parts, are common Complaints in the beginning of this Disease: What can these proceed from, but the Assemblage of sharp, saline, interfering Particles, endeavouring to force their

their Way through these fine Strainers by Stops and Starts. The upper Lip swelled, Eyes inflamed, the Glands about the Jaws, Neck, Throat, and Shoulders, tumified, show this Disorder rather sooner (though not always) than most other Parts. The Backs of the Hands, Elbows, Arm-Pits, Ribs and Ancles, are frequently affected, and as the Disorder encreases, the softer Bones feel its Effects, which if they exfoliate, are often cured, if not, usually terminate in malignant Ulcers of a cancerous Nature, and bring the Patient at Length to an End.

THAT the King's Evil is a Disease, *sui Generis*, or after its own Kind, I can readily admit. But then how often is it complicated and blended with others, as the Gout, Venereal Evil, White Swellings in the Knees, &c. which seem to have a near Affinity with it, by affecting the Bones and Joints much in the same Manner? But the various Combinations and Degrees of each particular Malady that may at the same Time seize on the human System, I believe is impossible to be distinguished and ascertained. Then how can we range the various Swellings common or extraordinary, that arise on the Surface of the Body, or lie almost concealed among the Muscles, and are attended with such novel Appearances every Day,

Day, without knowing every particular Degree, of every particular Disease, and their Consequences, that may possibly be at once uniting in the same Body and its Members? What may probably be the immediate Cause of this Distemper, I have already hinted at; but the more remote ones, I may venture to assert, are as numerous as the different Appearances of Tumours and Ulcers in all Parts of the Body put together. I should soon wade out of my Depth, if I attempted to unfold such intricate and perplexing Combinations, or the Forms and essential Properties of those fine Particles of hidden Matter, as may contribute to the Formation of the King's Evil, and have puzzled so many judicious and learned Physicians, and may still do so for Ages to come.

I SHALL now proceed to say something relative to the Cure of this obstinate Disease. If we search the most eminent Authors in pursuit of a Cure for this Distemper, we shall find ourselves miserably disappointed, says a late Writer: I say so too. Therefore as their Prescriptions seldom answer the desired End, I shall take no Notice of them, but pursue my own Way of Thinking. I have no great Opinion of discussing of Tumours (unless the Face is likely to be much deformed by them, especially of the Female Sex; or
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when the Eyes are inflamed, and very troublesome, then I think such a Remedy is justifiable) because the peccant Matter is only removed from one Part to another, and not cured, but still subsists in the Blood and Spirits, and may possibly be thrown on a more noble and dangerous Part, and do much more Harm than can be easily imagined.

My Patients have often told me (to use their own Way of Expression) that they have had Swellings in their Necks, or other Places, and Neighbour such a one told 'um, if they did them with Vinegar, 'twould put them away, which it sometimes did, but in a little Time others arose in their Stead in other Parts, that would not yield to their old Remedy. If they were Parish Poor, and looked after by the Year, they fell to my Share, because nothing was to be got by them, and 'twould cost a deal of Trouble and Expence for Physick for such poor Wretches, who were better out of the Way. How unhappy are poor People, to be thus cruelly used by some mercenary Physick-Mongers? How many funest Examples are in every one's Memory (if they would recollect a little) of some Neighbours, or Acquaintance, that have even destroyed themselves, by backing or striking in Humours (as it is called)

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and repelling them to some mortal Part ? This Practice is too frequent with the Fair Sex ; I hope they will think seriously for the future, and do so no more. If any Reasons occur to make Repellents necessary, I then order proper Purgatives to carry off the morbidick Matter, cleanse the Blood, and prevent any Danger from such a Revulsion. Issues or Setons I never use, and often dry them up, for I could never perceive any Benefit accrue to the Patient from them. If Ulcers discharge the offending Matter lodged in or near them, why should we invite it another Way, and not follow the Road Nature has pointed out ? What are Ulcers, but so many natural Issues, which will discharge themselves, if a good Digestion is procured, as long as any offending Matter subsists in or near them, and then dry up of course, unless hindered by Art ? Why then should we make an artificial Ulcer that Nature wants not ? Nay, is even detrimental to it, by encreasing a Discharge, which we are endeavouring to diminish, and wholly subdue.

SALT Water being much in Vogue, I shall give my Thoughts on it as a Remedy for the King's Evil. I had a Patient troubled with a very painful Inflammation of the Eyes, which had baffled the Skill of all she had applied to in *London*,
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(and being a Person of Fortune, be sure no Advice was wanting) she was sent to the Sea Side to drink the Salt Water, which she did for a Month, and returned much worse: When I saw her, I soon perceived the Disorder to be scrophulous; she kept in a dark Room, not being able to abide the least Gleam of Light, complained of intolerable dashing Pains in her Forehead, and Eyes, which discharged great Quantities of clear Water, so scalding and corrosive, that it excoriated the Skin where it flowed down the Cheeks. This Lady's Complaints were afterwards removed by a most simple and easy Remedy, which I apply in those Cases, and seldom miss of a Cure. What I would observe from this is, that the saline Particles of the Water, which she drank so long, added more Matter of a similar Nature to what was too abundant in the Blood and Spirits already, which entirely convinces me that drinking Salt Water is wrong in scrophulous Cases of the Eyes; and bathing for them, I believe, to be equally hurtful, for we know many saline Particles may in bathing be absorbed through the Pores of the Skin by the Blood, and so unite with those already there. Observe what Lord Bacon says, "As it seemeth Salt draweth Blood, as well as Blood draweth Salt." That is, they reciprocally

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attract each other. Extirpating of tumified Glands (which is no unfrequent Practice) I have never used, either by the Knife, or Caутery, actual or potential; neither can I approve the Method, though I own its the most expeditious, and no doubt the most painful. I have had some Patients with me, whose Glands have been thus treated, and to all Appearance quite cured, and for a Time well; but as the Humour was not thereby eradicated out of the Blood and Spirits, it broke out again in fresh Places, which brought them to me. These fresh Complaints I have afterwards cured with easy and gentle Applications. Sometimes indeed, where the Disorder has been mild, and invaded but few Glands, and the Seeds of the Disease wholly contained in them, Extirpation has done the Deed. But if these tumified Glands can be reduced to their natural State by a less dangerous and painful Way (though indeed not so quickly) and no Danger of any Tumours arising elsewhere: Which shall we choose, the more quick, painful, and uncertain, or the more slow, easy, and sure Method of Cure? How many have been salivated without receiving any Good? Instances of this Kind I have met with in my Practice, more than once. A learned Physician writes, "A Salivation is found by
" Experience

" Experience incapable of eradicating this
 " obstinate Disease, notwithstanding it
 " has such peculiar Specifick, and almost
 " certain Virtue to remove the Venereal
 " Evil." Which plainly proves (as I
 think) the Seeds or Causes of the two
 Distempers to be very different; and
 confutes the vulgar Notion, that the Ve-
 nereal Evil is the Parent of the King's
 Evil; for if they both spring from the
 same Original, why are they not removed
 by the same Means? Which we find they
 are not; but when united in the same
 Subject, its rational to think they encrease
 each others Malignity, and render the
 Cure more uncertain and difficult.

Most People afflicted with scrophu-
 lous Disorders in their Eyes, are very
 fond of hood-winking or covering them
 from the Light and Air, which is the
 worst Method they can take, for it not
 only encreases the Inflammation, but in-
 vites the Humour that Way, and conse-
 quently occasions a greater Discharge from
 them, which should be carried off ano-
 ther Way, and which is often of so cor-
 rosive a Nature, as to excoriate and fret
 the Skin of the Face, as it distils down
 the Cheeks: I always make them throw
 away their Coverings, either going to Bed,
 or rising in the Morning, to prevent tak-
 ing Cold, by too suddenly exposing their
 Eyes;

Eyes ; and my Success has always warranted this Practice. After disapproving others Proceedings in the Cure of this Disorder, it may be asked, why I don't publish my own, which I think so much better ? To such Enquirers I answer : The Medicines I use are very innocent and common Things, but the Preparation is curious and difficult, and takes much Time to compleat. Should I divulge it, very few People (except the Compounders of Medicine) would attend the Process, or take the Trouble of it ; and how little Good will a vitiously prepared Medicine do, is obvious to any one : And as the common Labourers, and Handicraftsmen, their Wives and Children, make the Bulk of my Patients, it is above their Capacity, and of no Use to tell them any Thing about it, more than what is necessary to their right managing themselves under the Regimen I direct, and to give them the plainest and simplest Directions possible, as well as to use the easiest Means for their Recovery. As to the Sellers of Medicines, I think they can have no claim to reap any Advantage from my Labour and Experience. The better Sort of Families infected by this Disease are really more to be pitied, than the very lowest Class of the People, for they are but too often amused with fallacious

cious and flattering Accounts of their own real Disorders (of this in particular, and as Dr. *Radcliff* truly observed) kept in Misery for their Money. And to every one in general I say, nobody has any Cause to complain of keeping the Thing to myself, for every one that pleases, and has the King's Evil, may apply to me, and reap the same Benefit, as well as if they knew the whole Process. (Great I know) is the general Clamour against Secrets, Nostrums, and old Wives Medicines, as some please to call them; but I would fain know, if any prudent Person would refuse to be cured by a safe and innocent Medicine, unless he knew the whole particular Preparation and Composition; or because I don't choose to make that Discovery of my Methods that public Curiosity or Censure may expect? Did Dr. *James* publish the Preparation of his Fever Powder, yet I believe few People in their Senses would scruple the Use of it? If the candid, humane, and generous Physicians and Surgeons smile on my Endeavours for the Publick Good, let the envious, snarling, and covetous Practitioners blame me if they please, for not treating my Patients *Secundum Artem* (as they term it) that is, by not making long Bills.

I SHALL

I SHALL mention but one Thing more : Many People who have seen the amazing Effects of my Applications, often tell me, they hope I will not let the Secret, and its Improvements, die with me ; I do not intend it shall ; for I carefully write down every Patient's Complaints, the Methods I use, and the Success that follows, as far as I can be informed by themselves or Neighbours, who come to me on their Recommendation, by which Means I frequently hear of People I have cured, who living at a Distance, and being free from their Complaints, take no further Notice of me ; though all I desire for my Trouble is, to hear from themselves, either by Letter, or Word of Mouth, when they are well : But all my Patients are not so forgetful of their Benefactor. My Papers and Observations relating to the Cure of the King's Evil, I hope will fall into the Hands of my Executor : And may he use them to the Benefit of Mankind in general, and the Poor in particular, with the same Success, and charitable Intentions, as I have done.

F I N I S.